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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/820,032	04/08/2004	Masaya Tamaru	FP-1175 US	7577

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EXAMINER	
WORKU, NEGUSSIE	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/820,032	TAMARU, MASAYA	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	NEGUSSIE WORKU	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *08 April 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-8* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☒ Claim(s) *3-8* is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1 and 2* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *04/08/08* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *04/08/04*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is a replay to the application filed on 4/11/03, in which, claims 1-8 are pending. Claims 1, 3 and 5 are independent, and claims 2, 4, 6-8 are dependent.

Priority

2. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 04/08/04, have been reviewed. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the examiner is considering the information disclosure statement.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sones (USP 5,911,003), in view of Mizukura et al. (USPAP 2006/0012808).

With regard to claim 1, Sones '003' teaches an apparatus (fig 2) for reproducing image data formed by imaging an object, (image formed by camera 30 of fig 2) comprising: a reader circuit (30 of fig 2) for reading out image data, first color space information represented by a plurality of coefficients converting the image data in a color space set when imaging the object, (col.3, lines 57-65) and color temperature information optimum for the first color space information (fig 6c, 372-378 of fig 6c); a first color space corrector for correcting the image data based on the first color space information (col.1, lines 35-40); a second color space corrector for correcting the image data adjusted by said color temperature adjuster based on second color space information represented by a plurality of coefficients converting the image data to a color space set in said apparatus, (the offset values for each color are about 5-10 for the selected 0-255 base ten range of each color component. The offset values may drift with temperature and time so that it is preferred to perform an offset correction on every image using a portion of representative pixels from region B, col.7, lines 20-30).

Sones '003' dose not teach a color temperature adjuster for correcting the image data corrected by said first color space corrector based on the color temperature information.

However, Mizukura '808' teaches a color temperature adjuster for correcting the image data corrected by said first color space corrector based on the color temperature information; (col.5, 0086-0088).

Therefore, It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the imaging device of Sones '003' by

the teaching of Mizukura for the purpose of obtaining a perfect final image, for all the prints of different color to be exactly superimpose, and it should be clear to one skilled in the art that anyone of a wide variety of image processing device can be similarly employed to accomplish this desired result without depending from the teaching of the present invention.

With respect to claim 2, Sones teaches the apparatus (as shown in fig 2 and 3), wherein the first color space information includes a standard prescription for a color space proposed by a manufacturer, and the second color space information defines a color space desired by a user of said apparatus (col.12, lines 5-15).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Claims 3-8 are allowed.

With respect to claims 3 and 4, are allowed for the reason the prior art searched and of record neither anticipates nor suggests a solid-state imaging apparatus comprising: an image pickup device including an array of photosensitive cells for transducing incident light from an object field into an electrical image signal; said apparatus having a raw data mode for recording the image signal in a form of digitized, raw image data; an adjustment decision circuit for adjusting color temperature in the image data, based on the image data, determining whether or not adjustment of the color temperature is optimum, and outputting gain adjustment information reflecting the

color temperature resultant from determination; a recording adjuster for adjusting the raw image data as well as color space information including a plurality of coefficients for converting the raw image data to a color space used in imaging the object field and the gain adjustment information to a predetermined recording form; and a system controller for controlling said adjustment decision circuit and said recording adjuster.

With respect to claims 5-8, are allowed for the reason the prior art searched and of record neither anticipates nor suggests a solid-state imaging system wherein incident light from an object field is transduced by an image pickup device including an array of photosensitive cells into an electrical image signal, and in a raw data mode the image signal is recorded in a form of digitized, raw image data, said system comprising: an adjustment decision circuit for adjusting color temperature in the image data, based on the image data, determining whether or not adjustment of the color temperature is optimum, and outputting gain adjustment information reflecting the color temperature resultant from determination; a writer/reader for adjusting the raw image data as well as first color space information including a plurality of coefficients for converting the raw image data to a color space used in imaging the object field and the gain adjustment information to a predetermined recording form, and for recording and reproducing the raw image data, the first color space information and the gain adjustment information; a first color space corrector for correcting the image data based on the first color space information; a color temperature adjuster for adjusting the image data corrected by said first color space corrector based on the gain adjustment information; a second color

space corrector for correcting the image data adjusted by said color temperature adjuster based on second color space information represented by a plurality of coefficients converting the image data to a color space set in said system; and a system controller for controlling said adjustment decision circuit, said writer/reader, said color temperature adjuster and said first and second color space correctors.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NEGUSSIE WORKU whose telephone number is (571)272-7472. The examiner can normally be reached on 9A-6PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Negussie Worku/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2625